

REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP — AREA B

Meeting Minutes Wednesday, August 22, 2012

The Regional Water Planning Group – Area B met in an open public meeting on Wednesday, August 22, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room of Red River Authority of Texas, 3000 Hammon Road, Wichita Falls, Texas, with the following members and guests present:

- RWPG Members:**
- Mr. Curtis W. Campbell, Chair, Red River Authority of Texas, Wichita Falls
 - Mr. Wilson Scaling, Vice Chair, Henrietta
 - Mr. Dean Myers, Secretary, Bowie Industries, Inc., Bowie
 - Mr. J. K. (Rooter) Brite, Agribusiness, Bowie
 - Judge Mark Christopher, Foard County, Crowell
 - Mr. N. E. Deweber, Baylor Water Supply Corporation, Seymour
 - Mr. Mitch Grant, City of Vernon
 - Mr. Dale Hughes, W.T. Waggoner Estate, Vernon
 - Mr. Bobby Kidd, Greenbelt Municipal and Industrial Water Authority, Clarendon
 - Judge Kenneth Liggett, Clay County, Henrietta
 - Mr. Mike McGuire, Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District, Munday
 - Mr. Monte McMahon, AEP Oklaunion Power Plant, Vernon
 - Mr. Tracy Mesler, Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District, Nocona
 - Mr. Jerry Payne, Henrietta
 - Mr. Russell Schreiber, City of Wichita Falls
 - Mayor Gayle Simpson, Crowell
- Consultants and Staff:**
- Mr. Robert Adams, Alan Plummer Associates, Inc., Austin
 - Ms. Simone Kiel, Freese and Nichols, Inc., Fort Worth
 - Mr. Kerry D. Maroney, Biggs and Mathews, Inc., Wichita Falls
 - Ms. Stacey Green, Red River Authority of Texas, Wichita Falls
 - Mr. Glen Hite, Red River Authority of Texas, Wichita Falls
 - Ms. Danna Prichard, Red River Authority of Texas, Wichita Falls
 - Mr. Henry Wied, Red River Authority of Texas, Wichita Falls
- Discretionary:**
- Mr. Robert Mauk, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Wichita Falls
 - Mr. Doug Shaw, Texas Water Development Board, Austin
- Registered Guests:**
- Mr. Jimmy Banks, Wichita County Water Improvement District #2, Wichita Falls
 - Mr. Sam Bownds, City of Lakeside City
 - Mr. Gary Burke, United States Geological Survey, Wichita Falls
 - Mr. Bob Cochran, City of Vernon

Registered Guests:
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Mr. Dennis Duke, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Crowell
Ms. Jennifer Foster, Senator Robert Duncan's Office, Childress
Judge Travis Floyd, Knox County
Mr. Pete Gill, City of Lakeside City
Ms. Montie Haynie, United States Geological Survey, Wichita Falls
Ms. Winona Henry, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Abilene
Mayor Jim Henson, City of Lakeside City
Mr. Kyle Miller, Wichita County Water Improvement District No. 2, Wichita Falls
Mr. George Nitschke, Good Earth Mechanics, New Ipswich, NH
Mr. Larry R. Pannell, City of Electra
Mr. David Simon, City of Electra
Mr. Keith Snider, United States Geological Survey, Wichita Falls
Mr. J. Todd Thomas, W.T. Waggoner Estate, Vernon
Mayor Curtis Warner, City of Electra

Item One: Public Meeting Call to Order, Invocation, Roll Call and Introductions

Mr. Curtis W. Campbell, Chair of the Regional Water Planning Group - Area B (RWPG – B), called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Judge Liggett gave the invocation. Following roll call and establishment of a quorum, Mr. Campbell noted the following absences: Mr. Tom Stephens and his alternate Ms. Tamela Armstrong, Mr. John Hirschi and Mr. Jack Campsey. Introductions were concluded and the meeting progressed to Item Two on the Agenda.

Item Two: Review and Approval of Minutes of the February 1, 2012 RWPG – Area B Meeting

Mr. Campbell opened the floor to comments regarding the minutes from the February 1, 2012, Region B public meeting. With no discussion, Mr. McGuire motioned to approve the minutes as written. Judge Liggett seconded the motion and the motion passed with a vote of **16 For** and **0 Against**.

Item Three: Review and Approval of Minutes of the August 16, 2012 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

The minutes of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting held on August 16, 2012, were distributed to the members for review. With no comments presented, Mr. McGuire motioned to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Scaling seconded the motion, the motion carried by a vote of **16 For** and **0 Against**.

Item Four: Consider Authorizing the Red River Authority of Texas, the Administrative Agency, to Post Notice and to Submit a Regional Water Planning Grant Application to the Texas Water Development Board on Behalf of the Regional Water Planning Group – Area B

Mr. Campbell called for a motion to authorize the Authority to post notice of their intent to submit a grant application to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) on behalf of the RWPG-B. He asked the members to review the copy of the draft application in the amount of \$297,910 and noted the deadline for submittal was October 4, 2012. He said the application would be presented to the Authority's Board of Directors on August 28, 2012, as well as to the TWDB members on October 17, 2012. Mr. Scaling motioned to authorize the Authority to submit a grant application to the TWDB on behalf of the RWPG-B and Mayor Simpson seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of **16 For** and **0 Against**.

Item Five: Consider Authorizing the Red River Authority of Texas, the Administrative Agency, to Negotiate and Execute a Contract with the Texas Water Development Board for a Regional Water Planning Grant

Mr. Campbell explained that once the grant application is approved, the Authority will require authorization from the Region B group to negotiate and execute the contract with the TWDB. Mr. McGuire motioned to authorize the Authority to negotiate and execute a contract with TWDB for a regional water planning grant. Mr. Scaling seconded the motion and the motion passed with a vote of **16 For** and **0 Against**.

Item Six: Consider Approval of Non-Municipal Water Demand Projections

Mr. Adams, with Alan Plummer Associates, Inc., presented a revised Technical Memorandum outlining Region B's proposed non-municipal water demands in comparison to previous demand projections and the TWDB projections. The categories include Agricultural Irrigation, Livestock, Manufacturing, Mining and Steam Electric. In reviewing the categories with the group, Mr. Adams discussed the sources of data and the methodologies used by the TWDB to determine their proposed demand projections. Mr. Adams discussion concluded with recommendations from the consultants to adopt the TWDB proposed demands for Livestock and Manufacturing. He said Irrigation and Mining proposed demands should be adopted subsequent to recommended adjustments to the methodology, and steam electric proposed demands should be lowered to reflect the closure of the Hardeman County steam electric plant prior to adoption.

Following Mr. Adams review of the Technical Memorandum, several of the Region B members shared their comments and suggestions. Mr. McGuire was concerned that the 2011-2012 drought data was not included in the proposed irrigation demands, but the consultants clarified the data was not yet available. Mr. Hughes, Mr. Payne and Mr. Scaling all expressed reservations for the accuracy of the livestock counts and the calculation of "fifteen gallons of

Item Six: Consider Approval of Non-Municipal Water Demand Projections
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water per head per day”. Mr. Deweber suggested the proposed steam electric demands for Wilbarger County need to be decreased based on demands being met by other means and Mr. Mesler felt the proposed water demands for mining are still too low based on data provided by the Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District. With so many discrepancies presented, Mr. Shaw advised the group that the TWDB planned to present the proposed non-municipal water demands to their Board on October 17, 2012. He recommended all adjustments and changes should be completed and approved by the Region B group prior to submittal to the TWDB. Mr. Shaw said any demand categories that have not been approved prior to the October 17, 2012, TWDB meeting, may have to be submitted and approved on a month to month basis.

The group discussed their options and it was agreed that Ms. Kiel and Mr. Adams would review previous calculation methodology for the livestock water demands and Mr. Adams would provide documentation on the livestock counts. Additionally, the decision was made to wait for the completion of the Bureau of Economic Geology (BEG) re-study on the Barnett Shale, scheduled to be completed towards the end of September 2012, as the updated data for Montague County may revise the proposed mining demands. The members were in agreement to not adopt the proposed livestock and mining demands without reviewing the additional data to be provided, as discussed. Mr. Campbell stated that once he had the information from the consultants, it would be mailed to the members and another public meeting would be scheduled to discuss the findings as a group. Mr. Payne then motioned to adopt the proposed non-municipal demands for agricultural irrigation, manufacturing, and steam electric, with a demand decrease of 1,000 acre feet in Hardeman County and a demand decrease to 10,000 acre feet in Wilbarger County on the steam electric projections. Mr. Scaling seconded the motion, and the motion passed with a vote of **16 For** and **0 Against**.

Mr. Payne initiated a brief discussion on whether stock ponds and evaporation losses were considered in the methodology for livestock water demands. It was determined that the topic is a supply issue, not a demand issue, and would be discussed in more detail later in the planning process.

Item Seven: Discuss and Consider Action, as Needed, on the Methodology for Identifying Potentially Feasible Water Management Strategies

Mr. Maroney informed the group that it is a requirement of the Texas Administrative Code that a regional water planning group approve the methodology for identifying potentially feasible water management strategies. He said the consultant group is proposing to use the same process which was used in the third cycle of planning, and in addition, determine if new or changed strategies are needed, as well as contacting regional water user group’s (WUG’s) for their input. Mr. Maroney emphasized that the strategies must use proven technology for those entities with needs, and meet existing regulations. He then reviewed the feasible strategies and the evaluations for those feasible strategies, noting that alternative strategies would also be included in the 2016 *Region B Regional Water Plan*. With no discussion following Mr. Maroney’s presentation, Mr. McGuire motioned to approve the methodology for indentifying potentially

Item Seven: Discuss and Consider Action, as Needed, on the Methodology for Identifying Potentially Feasible Water Management Strategies (continued)

feasible water management strategies. Mr. Scaling seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a vote of **16 For** and **0 Against**.

Item Eight: Discussion on Ground Water Availability

Mr. Campbell asked Ms. Kiel to present her draft memorandum pertaining to groundwater availability in the Region B area. She identified the three major groundwater sources in Region B, two major aquifers, Seymour and Trinity, and one minor, the Blaine Aquifer. Ms. Kiel explained that new legislation requires the use of Modeled Available Groundwater (MAG) values, which are based on adopted desired future conditions (DFC's), in determining groundwater availability in this planning cycle. She noted that the MAG values indicate a decrease in available groundwater estimates from previous water plans, which could limit future development and cause small shortages. Ms. Kiel added that groundwater availability from "other" aquifers has been defined in the past based on historical use, but she will be working with the groundwater districts to initiate additional methods to update that data. Mr. Mesler questioned why the Paleozoic Aquifer, which he stated is a significant source of groundwater in Montague County and is not considered to be part of the Trinity Aquifer, is not listed as a major or minor aquifer. Ms. Kiel replied that currently, there is not enough information available to include the Paleozoic Aquifer as a major water source. She added she was seeing some discrepancies between the DFC's and the MAG's and plans to follow up with the TWDB.

Item Nine: Discussion on Surface Water Availability

Ms. Kiel's presentation continued with discussion on surface water availability. Ms. Kiel stated that the consultants will continue developing firm and safe yields using the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) approved Water Availability Models (WAM's), for determining available surface water supplies for Region B. She added that there were no significant changes to the reservoir values from the 2011 *Region B Regional Water Plan*, with the exception of some new information for the Lake Kemp-Diversion system and drought impacts on Greenbelt Reservoir. Ms. Kiel informed the group she was currently reviewing a study conducted by the TWDB and the U. S. Corps of Engineers, which provides additional information on inflows to the Lake Kemp-Diversion system and that analyses would be prepared separately. She concluded with an update on the critical drought conditions affecting the Greenbelt Reservoir. Ms. Kiel explained that due to the conditions, the yield of the reservoir is less than previously estimated, therefore she is coordinating with the Greenbelt Municipal Water and Industrial Authority to determine what level of reliable supply should be used.

Item Ten: Presentation by Good Earth Mechanics on the Proposed Salinity Gradient Solar Pond Project at the Truscott Brine Reservoir

Mr. Campbell gave a brief overview on the Chloride Control Project (CCP) in Truscott, Texas and the impact that the lack of federal funding has had on the project. He then introduced Mr. George Nitschke with Good Earth Mechanics (GEM) and asked him to share a presentation on the proposed Salinity Gradient Solar Pond Project with the group. Mr. Nitschke stated that GEM's basic proposal was to utilize the salt in the brine lake to construct salinity gradient solar ponds to produce reliable, cost effective, renewable power and additionally regain federal interest for the CCP. Following his presentation, Mr. Nitschke answered a few questions from the group and referred the members to the Authority's website for further information.

Item Eleven: Update from the Texas Water Development Board Project Manager

The Project Manager for the Region B group, Mr. Shaw, talked about feedback that the TWDB has received from the Texas Legislature and the media concerning desalination of water and aquifer storage and recovery projects needing to be considered and evaluated as water management strategies. The Legislature would also like to see a prioritization of water management strategies included in the *State Water Plan*. Mr. Shaw assured the group the TWDB did not plan to include the prioritization in the *State Water Plan*, and the TWDB defends the fact that the regions look at all potential strategies.

Mr. Shaw reminded the members of some upcoming dates, September 17, 2012, is the deadline for publishing the legal public notice of application for funding, the TWDB should receive the Request for Application (RFA) by October 4, 2012, and the RFA's will be presented to the TWDB members on October 17, 2012 for approval. He included that the updated Texas Administrative Code rules for Chapters 355, 357 and 358 are now in effect, and Mr. Campbell noted that links to the updated rules have been provided on the Authority's website.

a. Updated Planning Timeline

An updated draft planning timeline was distributed reflecting adjustments of up to a year on deadlines due to the delay in receiving population projections from the state demographer. Mr. Shaw stated the population information should be available to the regional groups by the end of 2012.

Item Twelve: Consider Acceptance of the RWPG – Area B Financial Statements

Mr. Campbell presented the current RWPG-B Statement of Income and Expense to the members, which documented two payments have been received as of August 8, 2012, totaling \$21,389.56. He confirmed a copy had been faxed to Mr. Dennis Wilde with the Nortex Regional Planning Commission, with no comments received to date. Mr. Campbell then called for a motion to accept the financial statement for the period of October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012. Mr. Scaling motioned to accept the statement, and Mr. McGuire seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of **16 For** and **0 Against**.

Item Thirteen: Public Input and Comments to the Planning Group

Mr. Campbell opened the floor to input and comments. There was no discussion from the group or guests, therefore the meeting proceeded to the next agenda item.

Item Fourteen: Consider Date and Agenda Items for the Next Meeting

Mr. Campbell advised waiting for the consultants to review the data for livestock and mining non-municipal water demand projections in regards to concerns presented during discussion of Agenda Item Six. Mr. Campbell said following the distribution of any updated data or projections a meeting may need to be scheduled before the end of November 2012 to address comments from the Region B group. The members agreed to schedule the next meeting at a later date.

Item Fifteen: Adjourn

With no further discussion, Mr. Deweber motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. McGuire seconded the motion, the motion carried with a vote of **16 For** and **0 Against**. The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Curtis W. Campbell, Chair

Dean Myers, Secretary